equipments towards development of Oncology wings in Government medical hospitals in the country. Further, financial assistance for installation of mammography unit is provided to non-governmental charitable organizations having a Cobalt machine.

Increase in the number of elderly persons in the country

3140. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA :

SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a report released by UN recently has stated that India is fast aging and the number of elderly persons is expected to grow from 77 million in 2000 to about 141 million by 2020;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the older people do not have adequate health care and social protection;

(c) whether Government have or purpose to formulate a National Social Security and Health Care Policy for the elderly persons;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (e) A report of United Nations Fund for Population Activities (World Population 2002) points out that India's older population is expected to grow from 77 million in 2000 to about 141 million in 2020.

National Policy on Older Persons (NPOP) was announced in January, 1999 by nodal Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. NPOP aims at providing a better and meaningful life for older persons. The major areas of intervention visualized in this policy include financial security, health care and nutrition, shelter/housing, protection of life and property and to provide opportunities for development of the potential of the older people. To operationalise NPOP the nodal Ministry has set up National Council for Older Persons (NCOP).

The Government has also announced National Health Policy 2002 with an objective to achieve an acceptable standard of good health amongst the general population including the geriatric population of the country. This policy emphasises increased access to the decentralised public health system by

establishing new infrastructure and upgrading the existing ones to ensure a more equitable access to health services across the social and geographical expanse of the country.

Setting up of institution on the pattern of AIIMS

3141. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:

SHRI R.RGOENKA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that proposal has been formulated to set up some more institutions on the pattern of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in six States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the States identified, the existing institutions to be upgraded and time-frame drawn up, if any, for setting up the premier insitutions;

(c) the role assigned to the States and the source(s)/pattern of funding for the project; and

(d) whether the expensive tertiary care as well as village sub-centres expenditure would henceforth be looked after alone by the Central Government?

THEMTMSTEROFSTATCINTHEMINISTRYOFHE^ WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) The issue is under consideration.

Assistance to NGOs for population control

3142. SHRI MOTILAL VORA :

SHRTMATI PREMA CARIAPPA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are providing financial assistance to NGOs for population control;

(b) the number of organizations to which assistance was provided during the last three years;

(c) whether Government have reviewed the work carried out by these organizations;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government propose to release amount only after reviewing the work of these organizations in future ?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.